

Message Text

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67

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 EB-11 CU-04 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 L-03 /076 W

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R 251210Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1208

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRUSSELS 4505

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BDIS, BE

SUBJECT: ALLEGED PIRATING OF U.S. FILMS ON BELGIAN TV

1. FREDERICK GRONICH, VICE PRESIDENT OF MOTION PICTURE EXPORT ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, CALLED ON EMBASSY JUNE 18 TO DISCUSS ALLEGED PIRATING OF COPYRIGHTED U.S. FILMS. GRONICH SAID BELGIAN CABLE TV SHOWED IN BELGIUM U.S. AND FOREIGN FILMS RECEIVED FROM THE DUTCH, GERMAN, AND FRENCH TV NETWORKS, BUT DID NOT PAY ROYALTIES. THIS, GRONICH CLAIMS DEPRIVES U.S. COMPANIES OF DESERVED REVENUES.

2. WHILE NOT REQUESTING AN OUTRIGHT REPRESENTATION WITH THE GOB AT THIS TIME, GRONICH ASKED THAT WE MENTION SUBJECT TO BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY TO LET THEM KNOW OF OUR AWARENESS OF THE PROBLEM. GRONICH SAYS THE EMBASSIES OF OTHER COUNTRIES ALSO AFFECTED WILL BE ASKED BY THEIR INDUSTRY TO MAKE SIMILAR DEMARCHES.

3. BELGIAN CABLE TV DOES SHOW U.S. FILMS RECEIVED FROM FOREIGN NETWORKS, AND WE ASSUME GRONICH IS CORRECT IN STATING THAT ROYALTIES HAVE NOT BEEN PAID BY THE BELGIANS ON THESE FILMS. WE ARE NOT AWARE, HOWEVER, OF WHAT THE LEGALITIES OF THE ALLEGED PIRATING ARE. GRONICH SAID THIS QUESTION HAS BEEN RAISED WITH THE DEPARTMENT. ACTION REQUESTED: WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND THE DEPARTMENT MAY HAVE AND
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ITS GUIDANCE ON POSSIBLE EMBASSY REPRESENTATIONS ON

THIS MATTER. GRONICH IS HOPING TO HAVE EMBASSY SUPPORT
WITHIN NEXT WEEK OR 10 DAYS.FIRESTONE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740167-0833
From: BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740617/aaaaaofu.tel
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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